WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method in a data processing system having a program, the method comprising the steps of:

asynchronously receiving a data instance in a first format;

asynchronously receiving a copy of the data instance in a second format different than the first format;

providing a datatype of a third format for the data instance and the copy of the data instance, each datatype having a metadata in the third format that describes the respective data instance and a reference in the third format to the respective data instance, the data instances being maintained separately from the datatypes, the third format being recognizable to a subscriber of the data instances to enable the subscriber to concurrently process the data instance in the first format and the copy of the data instance in the second format; and

converting the data instance in the first format to the second format.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the second format is the same as the third format.

3.   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of converting the data instance in the first format to the second format further comprises:

converting the data instance in the first format to a fourth format; and

converting the data instance in the fourth format to the second format.

4.   The method of claim 1, wherein the subscriber does is unable to recognize the first format.

5.   A computer-readable medium containing instructions that cause a program in a data processing medium to perform a method comprising the steps of:

asynchronously receiving a data instance in a first format;

asynchronously receiving a copy of the data instance in a second format different than the first format;

providing a datatype of a third format for the data instance and the copy of the data instance, each datatype having a metadata in the third format that describes the respective data instance and a reference in the third format to the respective data instance, the data

instances being maintained separately from the datatypes, the third format being recognizable to a subscriber of the data instances to enable the subscriber to concurrently process the data instance in the first format and the copy of the data instance in the second format; and

converting the data instance in the first format to the second format.

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6.   The computer-readable medium of claim 5, wherein the second format is the same as the third format.

7.   The computer-readable medium of claim 5, wherein the step of converting the

10   data instance in the first format to the second format further comprises:

converting the data instance in the first format to a fourth format; and

converting the data instance in the fourth format to the second format.

8.   The computer-readable medium of claim 5, wherein the subscriber does is

15   unable to recognize the first format.

9.   A data processing system comprising:

a memory having a program that:

asynchronously receives a data instance in a first format,

20   asynchronously receives a copy of the data instance in a second format different than the first format,

provides a datatype of a third format for the data instance and the copy of the data instance, each datatype having a metadata in the third format that describes the respective data instance and a reference in the third format to the respective data instance, the

25   data instances being maintained separately from the datatypes, the third format being recognizable to a subscriber of the data instances to enable the subscriber to concurrently process the data instance in the first format and the copy of the data instance in the second format, and

converts the data instance in the first format to the second format; and

30   a processing unit that runs the program.

10.   A data processing system comprising:

means for asynchronously receiving a data instance in a first format;

means for asynchronously receiving a copy of the data instance in a second format different than the first format;

means for providing a datatype of a third format for the data instance and the copy of the data instance, each datatype having a metadata in the third format that describes the

5   respective data instance and a reference in the third format to the respective data instance, the data instances being maintained separately from the datatypes, the third format being recognizable to a subscriber of the data instances to enable the subscriber to concurrently process the data instance in the first format and the copy of the data instance in the second format; and

10   means for converting the data instance in the first format to the second format.